

April 22, 1970

Mr. Burke Marshall
Old Orchard Road
Armonk, New York 10504

Dear Mr. Marshall:

I don't know whether or not the Archives is keeping you posted about my efforts to obtain access to certain items in which they allege you have a proper interest. The disinterest you have made clear to me accounts for my not having sent you copies of these things.

Today I received an April 16 letter incomplete in other areas where you are also involved, relating to my request for an enlargement of a very small section of an already existing photograph of the front of the shirt of the President. When access to the shirt so that I could study the damage, not the blood, was denied me, I asked instead for an enlargement showing no gore, not in any sense susceptible of sensational or undignified usage. In response, I was offered a meaningless printed copy of the same thing identified as FBI Exhibit 60 which cannot be magnified because it has been subjected to the photo-engraving process. I was also sent pictures of this shirt where nothing but gore is visible - pictures that can be used only for those purposes allegedly not desired - and I have no use for such pictures, having no such intentions. I was also denied a photographic print of FBI Exhibit 60. The April 16 letter concludes, "We prepared the photographs of the shirt and the coat to show to researchers instead of the clothing itself. We do not furnish copies or enlargements of these photographs for the same reasons that we do not take special photographs of the clothing for researchers - to avoid any possible violation of the agreement with the Kennedy family."

It seems to me this is ~~but~~ another in the endless improper exploitations of the name of the Kennedy family to cloak suppression of evidence that should not be suppressed and cannot properly be suppressed. My sole interest, as I have made clear both verbally and in writing, is to be able to study the nature of the physical damage to the shirt and tie. I write to ask you one of two things: That you notify the Archives you would not regard the making available to me of these very small and otherwise unidentifiable areas of the President's garments, already well printed and publicized, as "any possible violation of the agreement" or, if you see fit, to request the Archives to make such a picture for me. My request to them was for the largest, clearest magnification of their existing negative of only these very small areas.

I also want you to know that, in the event I do not get this evidence, I will pursue those other avenues available to me.

Sincerely yours,

Harold Weisberg